

DID YOU KNOW... Every library board has a fundamental duty to develop an effective library strategic plan.

A good strategic plan is the road map for the library. It assists the board and the director in making decisions that are the best ones for the community being served. It also publicizes the library's priorities and its vision of the future.

The plan should reflect intense examination of the following questions:

- What is the present state of the library?
- How is the library meeting the needs of the community?
- What are the economic, political, cultural and technological factors that have an impact on library services?
- What trends can be identified as being significant to the library?
- Where should the library be in the future?
- What is the mission of the library? What are the goals?
- What does the library want to accomplish?
- How will the library get to the future?
- What steps should be taken?
- Who has responsibility for each step?

Board members must keep in mind the present and future needs of the entire community served by the library. It is the board's responsibility to obtain input from the community as well as the library staff.





FOR YOUR CALENDAR

June 25-28, 2005

American Library Association Annual Conference at McCormick Place Convention Center, Chicago Illinois

The Association for Library Trustees and Advocates has a number of excellent programs scheduled including: "Elected Officials: How to Get Their Attention on Library Needs", "The Taste: Library Planning; Finances, Space and Technology" and "Twix and Tweens: Library Programs to Motivate our Youth's Future".

Keynote speakers for ALA include author of over three-dozen books including <u>Farenheit 451</u> Ray Bradbury and United States Senator Barack Obama and author of <u>Dreams from My Father:</u>
<u>A Story of Race and Inheritance.</u> For more information go to the ALA web site at www.ala.

October 26-28, 2005

SCLA Annual Conference at the Marriott Columbia City Center (formerly The Adams Mark) Hotel in Columbia, South Carolina

Conference Theme: "South Carolina Libraries: Creating the Future, Transforming the Present". For more information go to the South Carolina Library Association's web site at www.scla.org

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